

3 July 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of National Estimates
Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Involvement of the NSCIC and its Working Group
in the NIE/SNIE Program

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1. Attached is a draft proposal from [] shop by which the NSCIC would become involved in commenting on proposed NIE quarterly schedules, and the NSCIC Working Group would become responsible for preparation of an evaluation form on each NIE and SNIE following publication. The proposal also provides for inviting representatives of non-USIB agencies to comment on draft terms of reference for NIEs and SNIEs.

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2. As you know, we are trying very hard to find ways and means of responding to the President's charge that the intelligence product be improved, and the attached proposal, or some modification of it, seems an essential part of such a program since the NIEs and SNIEs are such key elements in the intelligence community's coordinated production effort. I am aware of a tendency to take a jaundiced view of surveys and devices of this kind, but it is nonetheless true that the NIE and SNIE process has been subjected to these before (a summary of them is attached), not without some thoroughly useful results. These suggestions are intended to try to carry the process a couple of steps further.

3. In his memorandum of 16 February to the other NSCIC members, "NSCIC Working Group Proposed Studies," Dr. Kissinger recommended approval of the proposal to initiate the NSSM-69 and India-Pakistan crisis studies, but his final comments were as follows:

"Some lessons regarding the formulation and expression of needs may result. But these studies may not help us very much in better expressing our needs. Therefore, I urge the Working Group to continue its efforts to design a work program that will assist us in all our tasks."

SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE
OF E. O. 11652, AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT
TWO YEAR INTERVALS AND DECLASSIFIED ON

approval of DCI
(Insert date or event)

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED BY 05-100

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The proposals in the attached papers are an attempt to respond directly to this request insofar as NIEs and SNIEs are concerned.

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4. I am not, of course, going to make any attempt to raise this subject at our meeting on 6 July, but [] and I would like to discuss it with you as soon as possible and would thus appreciate your comments as soon as you can provide them.

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(Signed) Bronson Tweedy

Bronson Tweedy
D/DCI/IC

Attachment: as stated

DCI/IC/PRG/[] (29 Jun 72)

Rewritten:IC/BT:dm

Distribution:

O & 2 - Addressees w/att.

1 - PRG subject (filed PRG Project No. 14-72)

1 - IC subject w/att.

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